



2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037-3213

T 202.293.7060
F 202.293.7860

1010 El Camino Real
Menlo Park, CA 94025-4345

T 650.325.5800
F 650.325.6606

Toei Nishi Shimbashi Bldg. 4F
13-5 Nishi Shimbashi 1-Chome
Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105-0003
Japan

T 03.3503.3760
F 03.3503.3756

www.sughrue.com

Howard L. Bernstein

September 22, 2003

T (202) 663-7937
hbernstein@sughrue.com

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Shinya YAMASAKI and Hidemitsu AOKI
ETCHING AND CLEANING METHODS AND ETCHING AND CLEANING
APPARATUS USED THEREFOR
Assignee: NEC CORPORATION
Our Ref: Q77313



Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. 09/525,445 (Confirmation No.8436) filed March 24, 2000 of Shinya YAMASAKI and Hidemitsu AOKI entitled ETCHING AND CLEANING METHODS AND ETCHING AND CLEANING APPARATUS USED THEREFOR.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, 17 sheets of drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 1765.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
JAPAN	068898/1999	March 15, 1999

The priority document was filed in parent Application No. 09/525,445.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>26</u> - 20	= <u>6</u>	x	\$18.00	=	<u>\$108.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>2</u> - 3	=		x	\$84.00	= <u>\$0.00</u>
Base Fee						<u>\$750.00</u>
TOTAL FILING FEE						<u>\$858.00</u>



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A check for the statutory fee of \$858.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

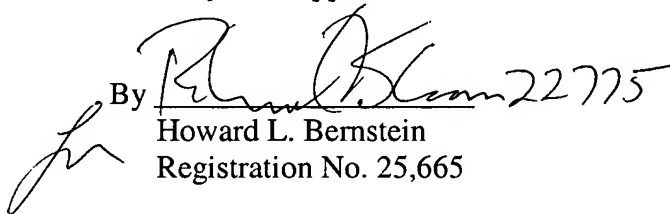
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

By

 22775
Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665